(c) The US has lifted a number of unilateral restrictions imposed on India after the nuclear tests of May 1998. The US side has not indicated the time-frame for lifting the remaining restrictions.

Clinton's Visit to Pakistan

2952. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Press report that various officials in Islamabad have claimed that President Clinton's visit to Pakistan imparted legitimacy to the army take over and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) if so, whether it was also claimed that the visit denoted US support for the Pakistani view on Kashmir;

(c) whether it has also been claimed that his visit would facilitate a durable settlement of the Kashmir dispute based on the wishes of the Kashmiri people; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (d) In his address to the people of Pakistan from Islamabad on March 25, 2000, President Clinton, *inter alia*, called for the restoration of civilian democratic governance in Pakistan and respect for the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir. He also denounced terrorism. Some Pakistani leaders, for their own purposes, have sought to give a slanted projection to President Clinton's straightforward message to the Government and people of Pakistan.

India seeks to establish trust and confidence with Pakistan, put in place a stable structure of cooperation and address all outstanding issues as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. Pakistan must cease its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and vicious propaganda against India. There is no place for any third party involvement in India-Pakistan relations.

Use of Foreign Territories by North-East Militant Groups

2953. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government to prevent the use of territories of Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand by the ULFA, NSCN and other insurgents and militants of North-East; and